

TRANSMITTAL # 8

MEMORANDUM

May 8, 2012

TO: Workforce Development Council

FROM: Richard Holman, Chair, Idaho Energy Sector Partnership

SUBJECT: Idaho's *Grow Green* Grant Update

ACTION REQUESTED: None. Information Only

BACKGROUND:

On January 20, 2010 Idaho's *Grow Green* grant application was funded by the U.S. Department of Labor. This \$5.9 million grant was designed to equip technical schools across the state in preparing workers for careers in green jobs, strengthen dual-credit articulation between secondary and post-secondary education and provide sustainable career-lattice training programs in the energy efficiency and renewable energy industries.

The programs involved at the secondary level are: Industrial Mechanics and Automated Manufacturing (Renewable Energy), Pre-Engineering, Electronics, Construction, and Home Technology Integration. At the Post-secondary programs impacted are: Alternative Energy/Wind Energy, Industrial Mechanics, Electronics, Diesel, Automotive, and Collision Repair. In addition, Idaho State University's Energy System Technology and Education Center (ESTEC) is developing and implementing a 9-month renewable energy certificate program to be offered in the evenings and on-line. The grant also supports green skills training in electrical, sheet metal and plumber-pipefitter occupational trade apprenticeships.

As case managers, Idaho Department of Labor One Stop offices work with the schools and other community partners to recruit students, track participation and outcomes according to grant guidelines, and integrate access to other One Stop services to improve entered employment outcomes. The department's central office is administering the grant through contracts and performance oversight.

UPDATE:

All secondary and post-secondary institutions, as well as trade apprenticeship training sites, have completed 75% of equipment/supply purchases reflected in the grant application. *See attached regional breakouts*

As of March 31, 2012, 1007 students, including 326 high school students, have entered Green training supported by these grant dollars. As the grant moves into its final nine months, regional teams,

instructors and case managers are now focused on program completers, moving adult participants into training related employment and moving secondary students into employment, apprenticeships, or related post-secondary training. Currently, 172 participants have entered job search, with 32 entering employment.

Idaho regional Grow Green teams continue to meet at least once per quarter to oversee planning and coordination of training, strategically problem solve training/grant issues and are now focused on placement activities for those completing training.

During the final phase of the grant, case managers and regional teams have been asked to focus on the Grow Green grant's \$200,000 On-The-Job resources to increase training related entered employment for individuals who have participated in grant training.

Idaho's Grow Green grant is scheduled to expire January 28, 2013. Recently, the US Department of Labor notified states that a six month no-cost extension will be offered to offset delays in initial approval of grant expenditures. This extension will improve Idaho's final reporting of performance outcomes.

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